

REMARKS

The Specification has been amended to correct typographical errors. Claims 20-26 are pending in this application. Claims 1-19 have been canceled. Claims 20-28 have been added. No new matter has been added with the additional new claims, as these claims are supported by the original claims and throughout the present specification. Also, no new matter has been added with the amendments to the present specification as one of skill in the art would understand that these amendments are minor in character and editorial in nature. Thus, entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

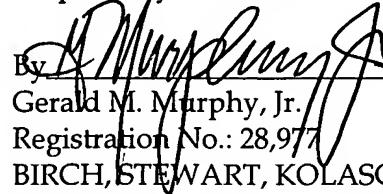
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gerald M. Murphy, Jr. (Reg. No. 28,977) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: April 18, 2005

GMM/smt

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Gerald M. Murphy, Jr.
Registration No.: 28,977
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Rd
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant